

House Resolution No. 246

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State health care facilities which are totally dedicated to meeting the medical needs of local communities and neighborhoods; and

Whereas, the idea for Southeast Missouri Hospital in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, began in 1924 when twenty businessmen and physicians signed individual promissory notes in order to purchase 52.5 acres on the westernmost boundary of the city; and

Whereas, a funding drive in thirty-one southeast Missouri communities raised the \$90,000 needed to construct a ninety-bed hospital, and the Southeast Missouri Hospital Association governing body organized in 1926 with twenty-three members signing incorporation documents; and

Whereas, Southeast Missouri Hospital opened its doors on January 9, 1928, to admit its first patient, a Jackson, Missouri, resident who underwent a tonsillectomy; and

Whereas, Southeast Missouri Hospital weathered the Great Depression in large measure due to the continued generosity of the original incorporators and through donations of coal, food, handmade bath and dish towels, livestock, and vegetables by area citizens; and

Whereas, from 28 employees, 48 births, and 28 patients in 1928, Southeast Missouri Hospital grew to include 1,641 employees, 1,450 births, and 12,279 patients in 2002; and

Whereas, in its Seventy-five Years of unparalleled, accredited service, Southeast Missouri Hospital has remained steadfast in its mission to make a difference through a commitment to excellence in health care; its vision for continuous improvement of the region's health status in a collaborative, cost-effective manner; and the values of Vision for Change, Access to Care, Leadership with Responsibility, Unity of Purpose, Excellence in Performance, and Service above Self:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the stellar, ongoing history of Southeast Missouri Hospital and to convey to all of those involved this legislative body's heartiest congratulations and best wishes upon the medical institution's attaining Seventy-five Years of service; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of the Seventy-fifth Anniversary of the founding of Southeast Missouri Hospital of Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

Offered by _____
 Representative Jason G. Crowell
 Majority Floor Leader
 District No. 158

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 246, adopted February 4, 2003.

 Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker